



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS



Saturday 03RD May 2025 – SS PHILIP AND JAMES, App

9.00am Morning Mass
 9.30am Holy Rosary
 10.00am Confessions
 6.00pm Vigil Mass

People of the Parish

John Patrick Sullivan RIP

Sunday 04TH May 2025 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

9.00am Mass
 11.00am Mass
 5.00pm Holy Hour

Josefa Hopfer RIP
People of the Parish

Tuesday 06TH May 2025 – St John Payne, Pr, M

7.00pm Novena to St. Anthony
 7.30pm Evening Mass

Kathleen Carr Intentions

Wednesday 07TH May 2025 – Wednesday after the Third Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Mass
 9.30am Holy Rosary
 10am – 5pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

James Quilligan Intentions

Thursday 08TH May 2025 – Thursday after the Third Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Mass
 9.30am Holy Rosary
 10am – 4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

People of the Parish

Friday 09TH May 2025 – Friday after the Third Sunday of Easter

9.00 am Morning Mass
 9.30am Holy Rosary
 10am – 5pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Jim Manning Recovery Intentions

Saturday 10TH May 2025 – Saturday after the Third Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Mass
 9.30am Holy Rosary
 10.00am Confessions
 6.00pm Vigil Mass

People of the Parish

People of the Parish

Sunday 11TH May 2025 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C) (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

9.00am Mass
 11.00am Mass
 5.00pm Holy Hour

Robert Albert Clay RIP
People of the Parish



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran

61 London Road, Wickford, Essex SS12 0AW ~ Tel 01268 733219

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

04TH May 2025

A Gospel of Mercy and Mission

This Sunday's Gospel reading (John 21:1–19) gives us a deeply moving scene—one that brings together the themes of mercy, healing, and mission in a powerful way. The disciples are back on the Sea of Galilee, returning to the familiarity of fishing after the trauma of the Passion and the wonder of the Resurrection. Though Jesus has already appeared to them, there is still a sense of uncertainty, even confusion, about what comes next.

Then, in the early morning mist, the risen Christ appears once more—quietly, patiently—standing on the shore. He calls to them as He did at the beginning of their journey: “Children, have you caught anything?” The disciples recognize Him only after the miraculous catch and the sharing of a simple breakfast. In this meal, there is no grand pronouncement, no sermon—just the warmth of presence and provision. Jesus comes to meet them in their weariness and returns them to grace through ordinary things.



But the most poignant part of the passage comes afterward, in His exchange with Peter. Three times Jesus asks, “*Do you love me?*”—echoing the three times Peter denied Him. It is a moment not of condemnation, but of restoration. Peter, full of sorrow yet burning with love, answers each time, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.” And each time, Jesus responds with a mission: “*Feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep.*”

Here we see the gentle mercy of Christ at work. He does not erase Peter's past but redeems it. He does not simply forgive—He entrusts Peter with the care of His people. This is the way of God: not only restoring what was broken but transforming it into something even greater.

This Gospel speaks to all of us. Who among us hasn't felt the sting of failure, the weight of regret, or the temptation to return to what is safe and familiar? But Jesus comes to us, too—often in the quiet mornings of our lives—and asks us not about our past mistakes, but about our love. “*Do you love me?*” That is the question He asks again and again. And when we say yes—however faltering or unworthy we feel—He calls us forward: to serve, to love, to tend His people.

As we continue our Easter journey, we are reminded that our love for Christ is not just a feeling or a private sentiment. It is shown in the way we care for others, especially those most in need. It is lived out in the small acts of faithfulness, forgiveness, and compassion that mark our daily lives. It is revealed in our willingness to follow Him, even when the path is uncertain.

Let us pray for the grace to respond generously, and for the courage to follow where Christ calls—trusting that He will provide everything we need, just as He did for those first disciples on the shore.



If you wish to make an offering online, this QR code can be scanned using the camera on your phone, directly to the Parish bank account, for your offering to be transferred each time. Please note Gift Aid cannot be used when donating through the QR Codes.

If you wish to set up a Standing order for weekly offerings, kindly use the details below:

Account Name: Catholic Church
 Wickford Our Lady of Good Counsel
Sort Code: 40-13-22
Account No: 71026216
Reference: (your surname followed by Weekly Offering)

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST

We would like to sincerely thank everyone in our parish who contributed to the Little Princess Trust appeal. Your generosity and willingness to give—whether through financial donations or hair—have brought comfort and confidence to children and young people experiencing hair loss due to cancer treatment or other conditions. Because of your support, we were able to send meaningful contributions that will help provide free, real hair wigs to those who need them most. This beautiful act of charity is a true reflection of the compassion and community spirit that define our parish. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and support.



FINLAY HARMAN – LONDON MARATHON



Just wanted to say a massive thank you to my Parish family for supporting me in the London Marathon for Farleigh Hospice Chelmsford. I finished in 4hr 43mins and it was hardest thing I have done. I thank you all for not only donating but for all the good luck and congratulations messages that I received, they really helped. I have so far raised £1850, and I am so pleased with that. Thanks again!

100 CLUB – INVITATION TO JOIN OR REJOIN

Support our parish and have a chance to win monthly cash prizes To join or renew for April 2025–March 2026, please make a £25 payment to:

Account: Catholic Church Wickford Our Lady of Good Counsel

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Number: 71026216

Reference: Your Name 100 (e.g. O'Doherty 100)

After payment, please email gerrydoherty01@gmail.com for admin purposes.

Prefer cash or cheque? Gerry will be at the back of church after Masses this weekend.

First two draws: Tuesday 27th May at Mandy's Tea & Chat.

Thank you for your support – and remember, *you've got to be in it to win it!*

GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR 2025-26 AVAILABLE NOW

The new Gift Aid envelopes for the 2025–26 tax year are now ready to be collected from the church porch.

If you can't find your named box, please speak to Talitha at the Parish Office, or get in touch using the parish contact details provided above in the newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

THE PARISH BAKE OFF

The Parish Bake Off – Postponed

Due to the funeral of Pope Francis taking place on Saturday 26th April 2025, *The Parish Bake Off* has been postponed out of respect and to allow parishioners to join in prayer and remembrance.

A new date will be announced shortly.

Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to enjoying your bakes at a later time!

RED BOX APPEAL

The Red Box Appeal is a vital part of our parish's mission to support the Mill Hill Missionaries and their work in spreading the Gospel worldwide. We are grateful for the generosity of those who participate in this important initiative.

To further support the appeal, we are delighted to announce that Fr. Paul Boagey MHM will be visiting our parish on the weekend of **10th and 11th of May**. Fr. Paul will be sharing more about the mission of the Mill Hill Missionaries and the impact of your contributions.

TEAS AND COFFEES

Join us for teas and coffee after the 9:00am Mass on **Sunday 11th May**. It's a lovely opportunity to catch up with fellow parishioners and enjoy some friendly conversation. All are very welcome!

YOUTH MASS

The next Youth Mass will take place on **Sunday 11th May 2025, at 11 AM**.

We invite all young parishioners—from primary school to university—to get involved, whether it's reading, bringing the bread and wine to the altar, or helping with offertory collections.

Please sign up on the board in the porch, including your school year and a parent's contact information.

We can't wait to see you there!

MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND FAMILY LIFE

Bishop Alan will celebrate the annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life at Brentwood Cathedral on **Saturday 21st June at 3:00pm**, followed by a reception in the Cathedral Hall.

Our parish has been allocated five invitations for this special occasion. These are intended for couples who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary, those recently married, couples preparing for marriage, or those involved in supporting marriage preparation.

If you would like to attend, please contact the parish office as soon as possible to request an invitation.

VISITING MAUREEN SULLIVAN AT CHERRY WOOD GRANGE CARE

Parishioner Maureen Sullivan is currently residing at Cherry Wood Grange Care Home, located on Writtle Road in Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0FZ (for Sat Nav use CM2 0AR). She would greatly appreciate visits from fellow parishioners. Your presence would bring her much joy and comfort.

Please consider reaching out to the care home in advance to confirm visiting hours or any current visitor guidelines. Even a short visit can be a meaningful way to share the love and care of our parish community.

THE REPOSITORY

The repository has a lovely selection of items for sale including cards, candles & children's books. The shop is open after all the weekend masses, & some weekday masses, & by appointment. Please contact Kathleen (761195), & Sheila (767064), for details.

Both Cash & Card payments are available. Please come & visit us. We will be delighted to see you!

NEW CTS SUNDAY MISSALS AVAILABLE

CTS Sunday Missals are now available from the repository. These missals, priced at **£19.95**, provide a complete guide to the Sunday Mass readings and prayers for the year. They are an excellent resource for deepening your spiritual life and following along with the liturgy.

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES –

Please pray for Jayne & Danny Balaam, Beniamina Bilewycz, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Celine Guckian, Sharon Guckian, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, Carmella Micella, Elizabeth Mooney, Cecile Nabeth, Olivia Nazareth, Margaret O'Doherty, Joy Orrock, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Maria Weedon, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, Gomez, Patricia McEvoy, Maureen Sullivan, Susan Freeman, Jane Davenport, Nathalie Ah-key, Amparo Thorogood, George O'Boyle, Pat McEvoy, Ann Parkinson, Nelly Prada, Michael Fitzgerald, May and Chris Carey, Doreen Green, Conrad Gomes, Peter Turner, Sr. Sior Cosgrave Una, Clairin Molloy, Patricia Graves and Keith Bottjer, Robert Turner, Patricia Price, George Ross, Frank Daniels, Geoff Ebdon, Peter Griggs, Joan Fitzgerald, Sandra Fitzgerald, Clifford Foxwell, Pat Kent, Antoniette Ambrose .

Anniversaries We pray for Canon Thomas Norris, Fr. Feargus Saurin, Delia Reynolds, Daniel Martin, Fr. Andrew Domricott, Canon Peter Palmer, Canon Basil Booker, Edward Tibbs, Terence Arthur Fitzsimmons, Fr. John O'Callaghan, John Patrick Sullivan, Thomas Barry, Josephine Moles, Joseph Shipperlee, Henry George Tyler, Helena Gilbe, Jeremiah Kyle, Albert Eldred, Ethel Marion Guest, Edward McEvoy, Robert Patterson, Frances Theresa Maguire, Canon Brian Grady.

1. DIOCESAN NEWS

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Please save the date for the upcoming Life in the Spirit Seminars which are being held in Brentwood Cathedral Large Hall 6 Tuesday evenings (**29th April - 3rd June**). Come along to hear inspiring speakers, be filled with the Holy Spirit and travel through your own 'Holy Door' as we celebrate this Jubilee Year. More details will follow shortly.

ANNUAL MASS FOR THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

will take place in Brentwood Cathedral on **Saturday 21st June** - if you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, please let your parish priest know. In a message for this week the lead Bishop for Marriage and Family Life, Bishop Bosco MacDonald, writes 'the hope of marriage is that it becomes a source of stability and happiness, showing us the endless love that God has for all of us. Read the whole message on the Bishops' Conference website cbcew.org.uk

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from **Friday 18 to Friday 25 July**. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangney Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes Pilgrimage - Tangney Tours](#)

WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 25/26

Applications are now open for the volunteer retreat team at Walsingham House. If you are in Yr13 or finishing university and enjoy working with young people, then a year on the retreat team could be the perfect next step. Live and work as part of a young Catholic Christian community, sharing your faith and helping to run retreats for the young people of Brentwood diocese. For more information then please see the website: www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/ or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

1. Programmes:

INTER FAITH DIALOGUE

An edited recording of the talk given by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald at Gidea Park parish is now available on the website www.whatgoodnews.org The Cardinal explained how the Second Vatican Council encourages dialogue with people of other faiths,

and described especially the contribution of Pope Francis to this work.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS AND YOUTH MINISTRY

is an online course is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation (First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. For more information or to register your interest please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or see the website <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/>

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND THE ELECTION

An edited recording of the talks given recently at Christ the Eternal High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, by Raymond Friel, CEO of Caritas Social Action Network, is now available to view. Simply go to the homepage of www.whatgoodnews.org and click on the link.

2. Appeals:

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water, and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

3. Job adverts:

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School - Rayleigh Class Teacher

MPR/UPR ~ Full time ~ Required September 2025

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School is looking to appoint an enthusiastic and highly motivated class teacher to join our friendly and dedicated team. Our Lady of Ransom was judged to be an OUTSTANDING Catholic school (S48 Inspection, May 2022) and a GOOD school by Ofsted in January 2023.

Our school provides a happy, calm atmosphere with delightful children,

a wonderful learning environment and supportive colleagues, governors and parents. The successful candidate will need to be a strong practitioner committed to achieving high standards of pupils' learning and capable of teaching imaginatively. They will be willing to be involved in all aspects of school life. The post would suit an experienced teacher who is either a practising Catholic or willing to support the strong Catholic ethos of our school. The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The appointment is subject to satisfactory references, medical and enhanced DBS checks.

Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged.

For more details, please contact Mr. Parascandolo (Head Teacher) via the school office (01268 785741)

For an application form please visit the school website www.olorcps.net

Closing date: Thursday 8th May 2025 (4pm)

Interview date: w/c 12th May 2025

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School - Rayleigh

Learning Support Assistant - Early Years

34.75hrs per week, term time only, 8:15am-4pm (Mon-Thurs) and 8:15-3:45pm (Fri) with an unpaid 30 min lunch break
Scale 3 Point 6 £25,183 f.t.e. - Actual salary £19,959

We are looking for a dedicated, talented and experienced practitioner to work as a Learning Support Assistant in our school and with our fabulous team. The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Following safer recruitment procedures an appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, medical checks and enhanced DBS clearance.

Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged.

For more details, please contact Mr. Parascandolo (Head Teacher) via the school office (01268 785741)

For further details, please visit the vacancies section of our school website: <https://www.olorcps.net/school-info/vacancies>

Closing date: 4pm on Thursday 8th May 2025

Interviews: w/c 12th May 2025

THE CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE invite applications for the post of BOOKKEEPER. (Relevant skills and experience required). 20

HOURS A WEEK. Office based in Colchester CO4 3XD. For further details please look at our website – www.canonesses.co.uk **Closing date for applications May 9th, and interviews on May 23rd.**

Cleaner, Chingford - Our Lady of Grace

A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Cleaner at Our Lady of Grace, Chingford. The post will be part-time (9 hours per week – with a flexible working agreement to be agreed)

The hourly rate of pay is £13.85 to start as soon as possible.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV and cover letter by email to chingfordolgsta@brcdt.org.



This week's Article:

Recognizing Christ in the Everyday

The Easter season continues to unfold with quiet power, and this Sunday's Gospel reminds us that Christ often meets us not in thunder and glory, but in the familiar moments of life. The disciples were fishing. They were hungry. They were tired. And it was in this very ordinariness that Jesus appeared.

It is easy to imagine that encountering the Risen Lord should be a dramatic event. But more often, it is simple: a shared meal, an encouraging word, a quiet moment of prayer. In today's Gospel, Jesus cooks breakfast. He eats with His friends. He asks Peter not for perfection, but for love.

This is the heart of Christian discipleship—not grand gestures, but faithful love expressed in everyday choices. Jesus calls us, as He called Peter, to “feed His sheep”—to serve, to forgive, to walk with others in their need. This mission isn't limited to priests or religious; it belongs to every baptized Christian.

So how can we recognize Christ this week? In the child who needs your attention. In the co-worker who is silently struggling. In the quiet of your morning prayer, or the busy noise of a family meal. In the Eucharist, where Christ still feeds us today.

Easter is not just about what happened at the empty tomb. It is about how we live now—with hearts open to see Christ in all things, and with hands ready to serve Him in others. Let us pray for the grace to be attentive—to see, to respond, and to follow. Just like Peter, we may stumble. But also like Peter, we are loved, forgiven, and sent.

Prayer:

*Risen Lord,
You meet us in the ordinary moments of our lives.
Help us to recognize Your presence,
to respond to Your love,
and to serve You with willing hearts.
Give us the courage to follow You,
even when the path is uncertain.*

*May we feed Your sheep with love,
and reflect Your light to the world.
Amen.*

